

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 12 and 13 are amended. Claim 14 is cancelled. Claims 15-20 were withdrawn from further consideration. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding office action, the drawings were objected to, claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 and claims 1-11, and 13-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over the combination of European Patent A-0 843-380 to Okada (hereinafter Okada) and U.S. Patent 5,1424,864 to Emura (hereinafter Emura).

In response to the objection to the drawings, substitute drawings are attached which have labeled Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 as “Background Art”. Such a label is proper as those figures are discussed in the section entitled “Related Background Art”.

In response to the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102, applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot in light of the amendment to that claim. In particular, claim 12 has been amended to depend from independent claim 2, and is patentable for reasons set forth for the patentability of claim 2 below.

In response to the rejection of claims 1 and 2 and their dependent claims, Applicants respectfully submit that such a rejection is moot in light of the amendments to claims 1 and 2. Claim 1 now recites “weighting means configured to perform weighting with respect to the branched signals of which frequencies have been converted by said control station side frequency conversion means”. Such a positively recited “weighting means” is not shown by the applied references, either individual or in combination. By performing such a weighting, it is possible to conduct the signal transmission between the base station and the control station, while maintaining the relative phase difference and the relative intensity between the

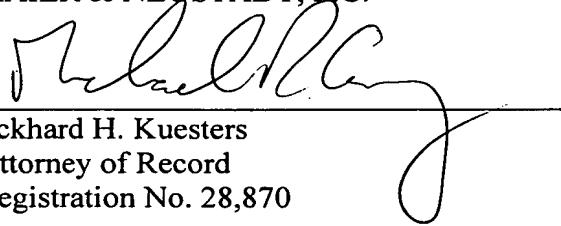
signals. Such, an advantage does not appear to have been contemplated by Okada and Emura, so the subject matter of claim 1 is non-obvious over the cited combination of elements.

Similarly, Claim 2 recites “weighting means configured to weight based on a weight control signal with respect to the signals of the respective antenna elements relating to the transmitted signal transmitted from said variable beam-pattern array antenna to said radio communication terminal.” The applied references, individually and in combination, do not describe the weighting means of claim 2 either.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 2 are patentable over the applied combination, and all the dependent claims are patentable based on their dependence on claims 1 and 2. Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. These sheets, which include Fig. 1 and Fig. 2, replace the original sheets including Fig. 1 and Fig. 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets